

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

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Term 1 Week 3

16th February
2010

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

Welcome back everybody to week three; last week was a great week at St Mary's, the two special highlights being our Whanau picnic and games afternoon, and our meet the teachers evening.

The special aspect of the Whanau picnic was seeing the leadership skills of our seniors, especially our Year Eight pupils. Watching this you had to feel especially glad that we are a full primary and can give our Year Seven and Eights the opportunity to take on this leadership role.

The other highlight was our meet the teachers evening. It was great to see so many of you there and to see teachers and parents working so well together for the benefit of the children. I think the saying it takes a village to raise a child is still very true today - and if the meet the teachers night was any indication then our children are part of a very supportive village.

Have a great week.

Regards, Mike Brosnahan

Looking Ahead: February

Wednesday 17th -	Ash Wednesday Mass 9.10am school hall.
Tuesday 23rd	Parent Meeting 7pm - Keep Ourselves Safe Programme
Wednesday 24th -	Mufti Day - gold coin donation
Friday 26th -	Assembly Room 7

Thought for the Week ...

When we long for life without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure.

Pater Marshall

Whanau Picnic



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

Keeping Ourselves Safe

Later this term all of pupils will be taking part in the Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme.

This is a practical health unit which teaches young people techniques and strategies that identify potentially unsafe situations and how to safely handle these.

This programme is jointly taught by the school and our Police Education Officer Constable John Somerfield.

To further explain this programme John and the teachers will be holding a parent evening on **Tuesday 23rd** February beginning at **7pm** in the school foyer.

As this programme differs from level to level and all of the pupils will be learning new information it would be great if we could have a good turn out at his event to better enable you to support your child's learning.

Paid Union Meeting 10th March 1pm

In accordance with Section 26 of the Employment Relations Act 2000, union members are entitled to two paid union meetings a year.

The Primary Teachers Union the NZEI has notified our Board of Trustees that a paid union meeting will be held for all union members on Wednesday 10th March, 1pm at Silverstream School.

All staff except for the Principal teachers aides and the school administrator will be attending this meeting.

We would ask you to arrange for your children to return home, or be picked up and cared for on this afternoon.

If this position presents a very real hardship or difficulty on you then we will be able to supervise a limited number of pupils for the afternoon. However I would ask that you let us know in writing if your child will be staying at school on this afternoon.

Special Character Religious Education

All classes have completed the first section of the Prayer Module – Te Karakia: An Introduction to Prayer. For background reading please refer to your Family/Whanau book pages 13 and 42. Also the Myself and Others Module – Ko Au, Ko Ratou will be integrated with our school wide theme. Family/Whanau book pages 43 - 45. From Week FOUR all classes will be studying the God Strand

Year 1 are learning that God is the creator of all that is. Family-Whanau Book pg 17.

Year 2 are learning about Our Gracious God's many gifts of love, especially the greatest gift of all – Jesus. Family-Whanau book pg 20.

Year 3 are learning about how God is present in the world through creation and active in people through grace. Family/Whanau book pg 23.

Year 4 are learning about the Holy Trinity, God's great gifts of creation and the Ten Commandments. Family/Whanau book pg 26.

Years 5 will be studying the stories of God's call to Abraham, Sarah and Mary. They will learn how Christians are called to believe in God and help build up the reign of God on earth. Family/Whanau Book pg 29

Year 6 focus on the names and images for God found in the Old and New Testaments and how Christians come to know God through Jesus. Family Whanau bk pg 32

Years 7 are learning that through the gift of grace people are able to grow in virtue and turn from sin and in this way become more like Jesus. Whanau bk pg 35

Year 8 have the Mystery of God as their focus, Christian Tradition reveals God as Trinity of three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit who as one God creates, redeems and sanctifies. Family/Whanau Bk Pg 38a.

BOT - Uniform Policy

The Uniform Policy has had a 'Uniform Dress Code' added to it to help clarify our school uniform expectations.

A copy of this is on the noticeboard in the foyer. Please let the Board know in writing any comments you may have before their next meeting on the 11th March.

Mufti Day - 24th February

Pupils may wear mufti to school and bring a gold coin or two. Proceeds from our Lent Mufti Day will be donated to the Missions Haiti Appeal following the destructive earthquake there last month. Thank you for your donations.

Touch

Touch starts next Monday, some teams still require coaches/managers. Please let Paul Sullivan, in Room 7, know if you are able to coach a team.

HANDS UP FOR LEARNING!

KIA MAU KI TE WHAKAAKO

Trial National Standards, Not Our Kids

NZM TEURCA



Today you will receive the "Hands up for Learning" flyer to help you understand more about the National Standards.

Please support teachers by signing the petition in the office for a trial of the National Standards.

Thank you for your support.